

## PRESS RELEASE

### **The Pierhor and Gasser-Ravussin companies regroup their production sites.**

Ecublens (Vaud), the 15th February 2018 - The Pierhor SA and Gasser-Ravussin SA companies are regrouping their means of production to the Ecublens production site situated at 9, Chemin du Croset. All of the Gasser staff (32 people) have been warmly welcomed on the Ecublens site. Pierhor SA and Gasser-Ravussin SA have equally joined their research and development forces. In total, 62 people work on the new site after regrouping the machines. Both these companies guarantee that the totality of their industrial operations for creating stones take place in Switzerland. Thus, their entire procedures and values scrupulously respect the rules of "Swiss Made".

Mr Jean Michel Uhl, the current CEO of Générale Ressorts in Bienne, will also direct the synthetic stones department of the Acrotec Group. "To ensure the continuity of the supply of stones for the anti-shocks for the Acrotec group has been the main reason for entering into this sector, which was in serious difficulty. Having gathered together the machine parks of both Pierhor SA and Gasser-Ravussin SA, the endangered future of both companies is now assured. Today, the site regroups the largest independent producer of synthetic stones for watch making with an annual production capacity of 80 million stones" declares Mr Uhl.

The two companies currently exist independently as their merger is planned during this year under the name of Pierhor-Gasser. The objective of regrouping both production sites is to increase the productivity, the reactivity and the quality, despite the particularly difficult current circumstances for the horology stone sector. Accompanying measures have been put in place for Gasser-Ravussin employees: flexible working hours; three private transfer shuttle vehicles with three pick up points for the Ecublens site, in addition to the timetable planning of these shuttles to avoid rush hour traffic.

"Gasser-Ravussin are one of the predecessors in the field of stone laser machining for the horology industry. Pierhor, the company that have been the reference for most famous horology brands and who have always distinguished themselves by the quality of their accomplishments in the field of polishing holes. This restructuring of the production methods combines over two hundred years of know-how. The excellent expertise and wisdom of both companies is now shared on the same site", declares Mr Fabrice Lambert, technical production director.

The technical developments of both Pierhor and Gasser-Ravussin will also be applied in other industrial fields such as the manufacturing of cutting nozzles. Being part of the Acrotec Group enables both companies to count on the group's sales force in the field of micromechanical industry other than for watch making.

**For further information, please contact:** Mr Michele Caracciolo - Tél. +41 77 410 35 60 - Email : [mcb@agencecrp.ch](mailto:mcb@agencecrp.ch)

#### **About the Acrotec Group :**

Acrotec is an independent group created by horology and micromechanical professionals with the principal aim of providing the entire watch making industry with "Swiss made" quality products. The Acrotec group has more than seven hundred employees. Their strategic objective is to simplify the complexities of subcontracting by supplying their customers with a wide range of horology and industrial expertise: profile-turning, crimping, surface treatments, etc. The companies in the Group possess all the skills that enable them to create and manufacture finished elements for watch making movements (springs, shock absorbers, oscillating masses, etc.), in addition to components for medical apparatus, amongst other industries. The Acrotec group also produce components for connectors, telecommunications, IT and mobile telephones, automotive, injection systems, micromotors, aviation and aerospace. [www.acrotec.ch](http://www.acrotec.ch)